

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, May 23, 2017

CONTACT: Matt Orlins (DCRA) 202.442.8945; matt.orldins@dc.gov

DCRA Launches New Online Permit Application

Updated system improves customer service, allows many permit applicants to obtain a permit without a trip to agency

Washington, D.C. –The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), today, launched a revision to its [Online Construction Permit Intake](#) (OCPI) system. The upgraded system will allow most permit applicants to apply for and obtain a permit entirely online—without a trip to the agency. Today’s OCPI release represents the fourth consecutive month that DCRA has launched a new system or program as a part of the agency’s [Safe and Simple](#) initiative.

Applicants for [intermediate and complex jobs](#) will now be able to submit their application entirely online, upload plans through DCRA’s ProjectDox system, and then pay for and obtain a copy of the issued permit without setting foot in the agency. Previously, applicants needed to visit the agency when they initially submitted their application and then again when it was time to pay remaining fees and pick the permit up.

“Today’s OCPI launch will allow a significant number of customers to save time by skipping multiple trips to the agency,” said DCRA Director Melinda Bolling. “The OCPI release continues down the path of making safety regulation processes as simple as possible. It also marks the fourth straight month that DCRA has unveiled a Safe and Simple initiative aimed at improving the experience for customers.”

In February, DCRA began offering [online scheduling and check-in for its Permit Center](#), along with [two other initiatives](#). DCRA created a new [ramp guide](#) for homeowners and [video](#) to help avoid common application mistakes for customers in March. Then, in April, DCRA rolled out remote access to [surveyor documents](#).

Through DCRA’s Safe and Simple initiative, the agency is focused on neighborhood safety and simplified processes. Visit DCRA’s [Safe & Simple webpage](#) for more information.

“Since August’s release of the DCRA [Business Portal](#), our initiatives have followed a very clear path,” said Bolling. “We want to enable as many customers as possible to skip a trip to the agency and to make visits as simple as possible for those who do choose in-person appointments.”

###

Follow DCRA on Twitter!

Follow DCRA on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/DCRA>